

February
2021



NEWSLETTER



Fremont County Farm

Service Agency:

508 North Broadway Ave

Riverton, WY 82501

Phone: 307-856-7524

Fax: 855-415-3439

Hours: 8:00 am—4:30 pm

Acting County Executive Director:

Sherri Harvey

District Director

Farm Loan Manager:

Brian Harrell

Farm Loan Program

Technician:

Carol Zogata

Program Technicians:

Tracy Givens

Becky Walters

County Committee:

Jim Hellyer

Will O'Neal

Stan Horton

Next Committee Meeting: TBA

Hello Fremont County Farmers and Ranchers!

As you are all aware, COVID-19 has not gone away and continues to effect how we all take care of our business. Your Fremont County FSA employees are all working diligently to ensure you are kept informed of programs available to you and we are making every effort to provide excellent service in these trying times. Our office cannot allow you to enter the office at this time. However, we can meet you out front, email, fax or mail documents to you for your review and signature. Please give us a call and we will make the necessary arrangements to ensure you are provided every opportunity to participate in the FSA Programs.

Our office has continued to experience a substantial workload since May 2020 due to drought programs and the COVID relief programs, all in addition to our normal programs. We continue to process applications, while updating eligibility and farm records. We cannot stress how important it is for you to maintain/update your records with our office. If your records are up to date when disasters strike, we can process your application for payment faster and more efficient.

If you have any changes in your operation contact our office as soon as possible so we can keep your records up to date. This would include changing your operation to a LLC, Corp, Trust, changing email addresses, contact information, or addresses.

ARC/PLC deadline for 2021 contracts is March 15, 2021. ARC/PLC is tied to the historic base acres on your farm. If the farm does not hold base acres, it is not eligible for an ARC/PLC contract. This deadline is more likely to apply to you if you acquired a new farm, switched to a new entity, or otherwise made changes to your farming operation. Additionally, if you are wanting to change the program election that you made in 2019, this deadline will apply to you.

Wool Producers - there is already a 2021 Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) on Wool. Please contact the office if you haven't already signed your LDP agreement and request, which needs signed before you lose beneficial interest in your wool.

Wishing you all a prosperous 2021!

Filing CCC-941 Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certifications

If you have experienced delays in receiving Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) payments, Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) and Market Gains on Marketing Assistance Loans (MALs), it may be because you have not filed form CCC-941, *Adjusted Gross Income Certification*.

If you don't have a valid CCC-941 on file for the applicable crop year you will not receive payments. All farm operator/tenants/owners who have not filed a CCC-941 and have pending payments should IMMEDIATELY file the form with their recording county FSA office. Farm operators and tenants are encouraged to ensure that their landowners have filed the form.

FSA can accept the CCC-941 for 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021. Unlike the past, you must have the CCC-941 certifying your AGI compliance before any payments can be issued.

Farm Service Agency

2021 Customer Calendar

www.usda.gov
www.farmers.gov
www.fsa.usda.gov
www.fsa.usda.gov/wy

Farm Service Agency - Wyoming State Office

951 Werner Court, Suite 130
Casper, Wyoming 82601 PH: 307-261-5231

Farm Programs

- Agricultural Risk & Price Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC)
- Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP)
- Commodity Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL)
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC)
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP)
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)
- Quality Loss Adjustment Program (QLA)

Farm Loans—No Application Deadlines

- Beginning Farmer & Rancher Loans
- Emergency Loans (Time Sensitive)
- Farm Operating Loans (Direct and Guaranteed)
- Farm Ownership Loans (Direct and Guaranteed)
- Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL)
- EZ Guarantee and Microloans
- SDA (Women/Minority) Farmer & Rancher Loans
- Youth Loans
- Various eligibility requirements are required for both Farm programs and Farm loans

LFP:

- Within 30 days after the end of the year in which the grazing loss occurred – submit Application for Payment and supporting documentation

LIP:

- Within 30 days of noticing Livestock loss or injury – Submit Notice of Loss
- Within 60 days after the end of the year in which loss or injury occurred – Submit Application for Payment

ELAP:

- Within 30 days of livestock feed or pasture losses/issues due to extreme weather – Submit Notice of Loss
- Within 60 days after the end of the year in which loss occurred – Submit Application for Payment

MAL/LDP Availability (from harvest to the below deadline):

- January 31 - Wool, Mohair and LDP only for Unshorn Pelts
- March 31 - Barley, Canola, Flaxseed, Honey, Oats, Rape-seed, Sesame seed and Wheat
- May 31 - Corn, Dry peas, Grain sorghum, Lentils, Mustard seed, Safflower, Small chickpeas, Large chickpeas, Soybeans and Sunflower seed

NAP:

- December 1 – All perennial grasses, alfalfa, clover, mixed forage, and honey
- March 15 – Hemp
- April 1 – All spring seeded crops
- Within 15 days of crop loss – Submit Notice of Loss
- November 15 (varies by crop) – Final day to submit Application for Payment

Farm Program Deadlines - (dates below are subject to change) *Contact your local office for more information or to make an appointment.*

Acreege Reports:

- July 15 – Soybeans, corn, and other spring-planted feed grains, CRP, Hemp, and other crops
- November 15 – Apiculture (bees), fall -seeded small grains

CRP General Signup: January 4 to (will be announced at a later date)

Continuous CRP Signup: Ongoing

Quality Loss Adjustment Program (QLA) Signup: January 6 to March 5

CRP Grasslands Signup: March 15 to April 23

ARC/PLC:

- July 15 – Final date to report production for the preceding crop year
- October 20 – Election and enrollment begin for the applicable year
- March 15 – Election and enrollment end for the applicable year

Days USDA Offices Are Closed

Jan. 1 - New Year's Day Holiday
Jan. 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Feb. 15 - President's Birthday
May 31 - Memorial Day
July 4 - Independence Day
Sept. 6 - Labor Day
Oct. 11 - Columbus Day
Nov. 11 - Veterans Day
Nov. 25 - Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 24—Christmas Eve
Dec. 25 - Christmas Holiday

Important Links

Farmers.gov - <https://www.farmers.gov/>
FSA FencePost - <http://fsa.blogs.govdelivery.com/>
USDA Blogs - <http://blogs.usda.gov/>

Questions?

Contact your local FSA office.
A directory of USDA Service Centers can be found online at offices.usda.gov

GovDelivery Email & SMS Text Updates

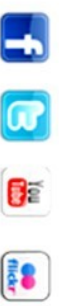
Contact your local FSA office ask how you can receive important FSA updates and reminders by email and SMS text subscriptions.

Have you moved?

Changed bank accounts?

Contact your local FSA to update your records.

Stay Connected with USDA:



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

USDA Offers Targeted Farm Loan Funding for Underserved Groups and Beginning Farmers

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers that FSA offers targeted farm ownership and farm operating loans to assist underserved applicants and beginning farmers and ranchers.

USDA defines underserved applicants as a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For farm loan program purposes, targeted underserved groups are women, African Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Hispanics and Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Underserved or beginning farmers and ranchers who cannot obtain commercial credit from a bank can apply for either FSA direct loans or guaranteed loans. Direct loans are made to applicants by FSA. Guaranteed loans are made by lending institutions who arrange for FSA to guarantee the loan. FSA can guarantee up to 95 percent of the loss of principal and interest on a loan. The FSA guarantee allows lenders to make agricultural credit available to producers who do not meet the lender's normal underwriting criteria.

The direct and guaranteed loan program provides for two types of loans: farm ownership loans and farm operating loans. In addition to customary farm operating and ownership loans, FSA offers Microloans through the direct loan program. Microloans focus on the financing needs of small, beginning farmer, niche, and non-traditional farm operations. Microloans are available for both ownership and operating finance needs. To learn more about microloans, visit fsa.usda.gov/microloans.

To qualify as a beginning producer, the individual or entity must meet the eligibility requirements outlined for direct or guaranteed loans. Individuals and all entity members must have operated a farm for less than 10 years. Applicants must materially or substantially participate in the operation.

For more information on FSA's farm loan programs and targeted underserved and beginning farmer guidelines, contact your Fremont County USDA Service Center at 307-856-7524 or visit fsa.usda.gov/farmloans.

Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybee, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP)

ELAP provides emergency assistance to eligible livestock, honeybee, and farm-raised fish producers who have losses due to disease, adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, not covered by other agricultural disaster assistance programs.

Eligible losses include:

Livestock - grazing losses not covered under the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), loss of purchased feed and/or mechanically harvested feed due to an eligible adverse weather event, additional cost of transporting water because of an eligible drought and additional cost associated with gathering livestock to treat for cattle tick fever.

Honeybee - loss of purchased feed due to an eligible adverse weather event, cost of additional feed purchased above normal quantities due to an eligible adverse weather condition, colony losses in excess of normal mortality due to an eligible weather event or loss condition, including CCD, and hive losses due to eligible adverse weather.

Farm-Raised Fish - death losses in excess of normal mortality and/or loss of purchased feed due to an eligible adverse weather event.

If you've suffered eligible livestock, honeybee, or farm-raised fish losses during calendar year 2021, you must file:

- A notice of loss within 30 calendar days after the loss is apparent (15 days for honeybee losses)
- An application for payment by Jan. 30, 2022

Lower Wind River Conservation District 2021 Tree Order

Contact your local Conservation District to ask about the 2021 Tree Orders. Trees and Shrubs are sold in bare root bundle lots of 25 or in 1-gallon pots. Weed barrier and tree protectors are also for sale. Orders are accepted until **April 16, 2021**. You will be able to pick up your orders on Friday, May 7th unless delivery is delayed due to weather conditions.

Careful planning and site preparation are required for best results.

Contact Cathy Meyer for assistance at:

307-856-7524 ext 3200

Or

lowerwindrivercd.org

**USDA Farm Service Agency
Fremont County Office
508 North Broadway Ave
Riverton, WY 82501**

Disaster Assistance Available for Livestock Losses

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to you for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather, disease and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law.

For disease losses, FSA county committees can accept veterinarian certifications that livestock deaths were directly related to adverse weather and unpreventable through good animal husbandry and management.

For 2021 livestock losses, you must file a notice within 30 calendar days of when the loss is first apparent. You then must provide the following supporting documentation to your local FSA office no later than 60 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the eligible loss condition occurred.

- Proof of death documentation
- Copy of grower's contracts
- Proof of normal mortality documentation

USDA has established normal mortality rates for each type and weight range of eligible livestock, i.e. Adult Beef Cow = 1.5% and Non-Adult Beef Cattle (less than 250 pounds) = 3%. These established percentages reflect losses that are considered expected or typical under "normal" conditions.

In addition to filing a notice of loss, you must also submit an application for payment by March 1, 2022.

For more information, contact the Fremont County USDA Service Center at 307-856-7524 or visit fsa.usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Sherri Harvey, District Director at 307-856-7524 ext 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.